

Application No. 10/620,485
Amendment dated June 20, 2005
Response to Office Action of March 25, 2005

Atty. Docket No. 6097P033
Examiner Kershteyn, Igor
TC/A.U. 3745

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 1, 5-8, 11, 15-18 and 22-24 have been amended. Claims 4, 14 and 21 have been canceled. No claims have been added. Thus, claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-20 and 22-24 are pending.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 102(A)

Claims 1-3, 8-13 and 18-20 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,361,275 issued to Wooben (*Wooben*). Claims 1, 11 and 18 have been amended to include allowable subject matter from claims 4, 14 and 21, respectively. Therefore, claims 1, 11 and 18 are not anticipated by *Wooben* and in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1. Claims 12 and 13 depend from claim 11. Claims 19 and 20 depend from claim 18. Because dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, Applicants submit that claims 2, 3, 12, 13, 19 and 20 are not anticipated by *Wooben* and in condition for allowance.

Claim 8 recites:

means for detecting radial displacement of a shaft of the wind turbine based on output signals from one or more proximity sensors; and
means for mitigating a load causing the displacement of the shaft in response to the detected shaft displacement.

Thus, Applicants claim detecting radial displacement of a shaft by one or more proximity sensors and mitigating a load causing the displacement.

Wooben does not disclose detecting radial displacement of a shaft by one or more proximity sensors and mitigating a load causing the displacement. Therefore, *Wooben* does not anticipate the invention as claimed in claim 8. Claims 9 and 10 depend from

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claim 8. Therefore, claims 9 and 10 are not anticipated by *Wooben* for at least the reasons set forth above.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

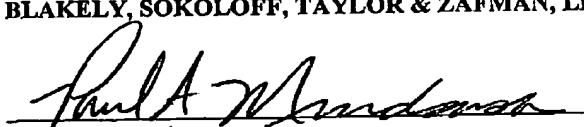
Claims 4-7, 14-17 and 21-24 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 4, 14 and 21 have been canceled and the allowable subject matter has been added to the corresponding independent claims. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 6, 7, 15-17 and 22-24 as well as the claims discussed above are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-20 and 22-24 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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